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<u>Paula S. Linkhart</u> Signature	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	§	
Tianlin WANG	§	Group Art Unit:
Michael M. LOHUIS	§	
Cheryl J. KOJIMA	§	Examiner:
Fengxing DU	§	
John C. BYATT	§	Atty. Dkt. No.: 11916.0065.PCUS00
Serial No.:	§	
Filed:	§	
For: MARKER ASSISTED BEST LINEAR UNBIASED PREDICTION (MA-BLUP): SOFTWARE ADAPTIONS FOR LARGE BREEDING POPULATIONS IN FARM ANIMAL SPECIES	§	§371 Application of International Application PCT/US2005/002362, filed January 27, 2005

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PRIORITY CLAIM

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the specification prior to examination of this application on the merits.